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NOT RELEVANT  
TO BAY OF PIGS

CURRENT INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY REVIEW

29 October 1959

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#### THE SITUATION IN CUBA

Fidel Castro apparently does not recognize the danger of Communism for Cuba and is not likely to be influenced to moderate his course. Qualified observers feel his violent anti-US attacks of the past week will continue and that his demands for US concessions may become more extreme.

Leaders of the extremist forces are Raul Castro and "Che" Guevara, both obsessively anti-American and suspected of Communist sympathies. Raul was recently named minister of all army, navy, air, and police forces, which will enable him to control them even more closely for political purposes than he has done thus far. Guevara is director of industrial regulation and development and considered actually to run the Castro regime's most powerful and unrestricted agency, the National Agrarian Reform Institute (INRA).

Both Raul and Guevara are believed to exert dominating influence in determining high Cuban policy in all domestic and foreign matters and to nullify the influence of moderate officials who hitherto have managed to temper some of the revolution's more drastic aspects.

Among its many nonagrarian functions, INRA is evidently the chief agent in Castro's strenuous efforts to increase trade with countries other than the United States. An INRA mission now is in Asia, and another left for Europe on 27 October seeking to purchase equipment in Italy, Germany, France, and Spain. The latter group is led by INRA's leftist executive director, Nunez Jimenez, and will also serve as the Cuban delegation to the conference in Rome of the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization.

PART I

OF IMMEDIATE INTEREST

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PART II

NOTES AND COMMENTS

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While Castro's drastic economic reforms have substantially reduced the purchasing power of private interests, INRA has received large government grants and sizable donations from groups anxious to demonstrate their support of the revolution. Its missions, therefore, are Cuba's biggest purchasers and can enter into large-scale agreements, some of them probably utilizing barter..

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One such agreement is reported under consideration with West Germany in the development of Cuba's potentially important mining industry, where extensive American interests are threatened by the cabinet action of 27 October which withdraws important concessions granted by previous governments.

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